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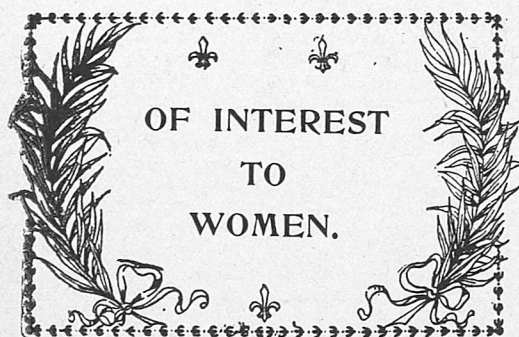
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BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

WHO can say that July is not a decorative month? It is warm—hot, we will all acknowledge, but there are endless ways of adorning a home, and making a table a bower of beauty at least for the three meals a day. Have we not the fields at our command? And their treasures are offered us while the dew is on the blossoms, which we gather in the early morning.

EVERY woman who has the slightest sense of artistic taste will sooner or later possess a fern dish. One of those China affairs in Delft or Dresden make, in which is a porous dish, which holds so gracefully the ferns, those tender ones which give to a table such an ornamental look. Ferns which have lived their lives in a hot-house naturally wither and fade very soon, so to make a success for your fern dish take it away with you on your holiday, and some day when the weather is cool make a pilgrimage where these plants grow wild in their natural state and fill your dish with those in a healthy condition.

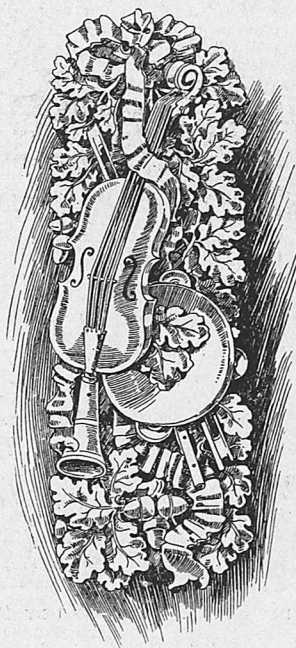
GET a few good points from some country woman who understands flowers, and on your return you will have a fern dish that will rival any city one, however beautiful. People who spend the summer in the country can do many things in a decorative way for their homes in the winter season that will be a joy when the cold days make their appearance. Among the pretty vines in July the clematis is surely a find. It grows along the hedges, and if gathered early in the morning will be a special adornment for a jardinière or big flower pot which will hold enough water to keep it fresh and bright. The clematis looks particularly well as a picture decoration, one single branch placed across the top of the frame.

AT AN afternoon six o'clock tea the table can be gorgeously dressed in wild flowers. On a round centre cloth of white and green embroidery there can be placed a rose bowl in American cut glass, fill this with any kind of wild flowers and sweet-smelling leaves. At either end of the table let there be a tall vase in the same glass and filled with a complement of buds and blossoms. Let your damask be of pure white in good pattern, some artistic dishes for accessories, and china in white and gold, and you will have as pretty a table as one would desire.

FOR piazzas, jugs can be filled with every sort and kind of field flower and placed here and there. This season there are jardinières with pedestals in all colors, which

add greatly to these places. Big ferns and flowering shrubs can be planted, and by careful watering will add greatly to the porch effect. In fact, an old pitcher or urn with a broken spout will and can be made to do duty if generously filled with wild flowers, big leaves and large ferns. Decorations on porches stand out and show off at all points in piazza dressing.

FOR July we have the new stoop seat, which is something entirely new. This affair is an article like a chair without legs, the seat and back of slats held together by a very stout wire. It is painted in forest green of beautiful tones. With it is a small cushion of hair covered with a green denim, which fits exactly the wide seat. This novelty can be put on the steps of the piazza, and makes for children or any invalid an excellent resting-place. They are very reasonable in price, costing but fifty to seventy-five cents each. Some three or four on a piazza would aid very much in the comfort for the warm days, when the outdoors is so generally needed.



A CARVED PANEL SYMBOLIZING "MUSIC."

AMONG the other conveniences for outdoor accessories the red bench with canopied covering is very acceptable. It will hold some two or three persons, has an awning in striped canvas, which decorates greatly, the edge being bound with a narrow red fringe and finished in scallops. Seats for the piazza this season are more popular than ever, and of different varieties and all reasonable in price.

TO THE clever home-maker who knows a little about the covering of a screen, there can be given some wide and ample pockets which can be made of leatherette and fastened on the inside with stout gilt tacks. These receptacles are very handy for embroideries, silks and the like. The screen itself can be covered with some denim in a conventional design and will serve well the piazza needs,

IN THE olden days the yacht was a trim little craft unfurnished. But at the present time the only desire is to decorate and furnish. For the smaller ones there is a durable curtain to hide the ship's stores, and cushions innumerable which can be carried in and out and yet do excellent duty for the summer voyage.

THE best are made of leather. Others are well equipped in the striped awning canvas with a monogram in silks and some in strong stuffs which in course of time fade, look limp and need replenishing every year. Of course vessels of good size have a regular furnishing by people who understand the needs. And a business is now made by clever artists who provide for these urgencies and make the houseboat a joy to behold.

WITH July come piazza calls and with piazza calls come special decorations in embroideries. Every woman, whether an expert needle worker or not, is sure to have a piece of linen on hand for the summer. A pick-up affair she takes in at odd times and finishes when the season is nearly over. But the centre cloth of today is a very elaborate one. Among the nearest is the Violet, the whole scheme being on the edges. This cloth, a very fine linen, is cut in deep points and on each point is a bunch of violets in every shade, the stem running up some four or five inches and on the end is a bunch of green leaves. This pretty design is very decorative, and with it can be made smaller mats used for table accessories.

OF COURSE there are various trifles for the home maker who wishes to use the spare hours in hot weather for the making of home novelties. Among the pretty ideas is the gingham pillow, headrest and table cover; the pattern is a medium square in plaid form, and ranges in colors either of blue, pink or yellow. In each square formed by the plaid is a star which is done in tree stitching, of the same tint as the gingham.



A CARVED PANEL SYMBOLIZING "ART."